

# Fall Sports Inside!

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### Town celebrates 125 years

Nolan Ward (above right) rode in a covered wagon Sunday in a parade to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the founding of Russell Springs, which once was the county seat of Logan County. At right, sisters Macie (left) and Maddie Lamb dressed in old-time attire and rode horses for the parade. The Butterfield Trail Museum in the former courthouse opened for the occasion, and lunch was served on the museum lawn.

KATHRYN BALLARD  
Colby Free Press



### City advised to wait on wind towers

By Sam Dieter

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A state official warned the Colby City Council on Tuesday against allowing development around the airport without some oversight from the city and not to approve proposed wind towers until they know that would not threaten federal grants.

The council spent a large part of the meeting listening to a presentation by Jesse Romo, airspace project manager for the Kansas Department of Transportation, who drove out from Topeka to talk to the council.

Representatives from Acciona Energy, the Spanish company which plans a wind farm south of town, asked the council Aug. 7 for a resolution stating the city would

not interfere with construction if the Federal Aviation Administration approves the turbines.

City attorney John Gatz was told to negotiate the resolution, but at Tuesday's meeting, said he could not recommend one until after the federal agency delivers more information.

"The council's going to wait and re-evaluate this when that information is available," Gatz said later.

Romo drove out to Colby to tell the council how the wind farm could affect federal grants for the airport. He warned against basing a resolution on the agency's decisions on individual towers.

"Conceptually, I agree," Romo said. "The problem is, the FAA doesn't agree with it, and the FAA

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### Three injured in Selden wreck

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Three teens, two of them students at Golden Plains High School, were flown to a Wichita hospital Wednesday night after their car skidded sideways through a stop sign and rolled into a ditch near Selden.

Two of the youths were in critical condition today at Wesley Medical Center. The high school, in Rexford, has extra counselors on hand to talk with students Thursday and today.

Trooper John Gizzarelli of the Kansas Highway Patrol reported that Colten Wachendorfer, 17, was

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### Quilting tradition continues

By Christina Berringer

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A longtime Wednesday afternoon quilting tradition lives on at the Prairie Museum of Art and History.

Six women, Margaret Denneler, Peggy Frahm, Mary Weed, Margot Trowbridge, Thesia Ashenbrenner and Janet Pinkelman, are quilting a blanket for museum employee Chris Griffin, who plans to donate it to the museum when it's done.

Museum Director Sue Taylor said the women have been gathering at the museum for at least 10 to 15 years.

"They've been here so long," she said, "I can't remember when they weren't here."

Taking a break from quilting, the women enjoyed desserts in the museum's conference room last week to mark some birthdays. Ashenbrenner will have her 85th on Saturday, Denneler will be 76 on Monday and VanHorn turns 86 on Wednesday.

Although she didn't indulge in afternoon treats, Taylor was celebrating her birthday. She wouldn't talk about her age.

Two other quilts were on display in the conference room, and the women told how their quilts are progressing, shared their concerns about tricky spots they've come across and gave suggestions to help with quilting problems.

Taylor said people bring quilts to the women so they can create new quilts, and many times, make donations to the museum for the quilting work.

"They do all the work and we reap the benefits," Taylor said.



Museum employee Chris Griffin (left) watched Margot Trowbridge and Thesia Ashenbrenner work on a quilt Aug. 29 at the Prairie Museum of Art and History. Trowbridge and Ashenbrenner are part of a group of six women who quilt together.

### County OKs new ambulance

By Christina Berringer

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Emergency Medical Services Director Joe Hickert got approval from Thomas County commissioners last Friday to inspect an ambulance in Missouri and buy the \$83,355 vehicle if it meets his standards.

Hickert told Commissioners Ken Christiansen and Paul Steele his four-unit fleet has been spread thin across the county since he came to the department in November. The service is running more ground transports and offering a more advanced level of care for patients, he said. On several occasions, all four county ambulances have been in use at the same time, which could cause problems in the future.

The director presented promising bids from six dealers, both in the area and out of state.

Of them, Hickert's favorite options were a remounted and reconstructed 2012 Ford E450 with a V-10 gas engine and 72 inches of headroom from Arrow Manufacturing in Iowa. After receiving a rebate of \$4,500, it would cost the county \$85,400.

Tubbs and Sons Ford Sales in Colby said they could sell that ambulance in Arrow's inventory to the county for \$87,850; although priced \$2,450 higher, it is the same vehicle but would ensure the Colby dealer to make a profit off the sale.

The other favorite, which Hickert was given approval to go look at, is a 2006 Traumahawk Type III remount. The warranty, Hickert said, is good until 2026 and the new chassis is certified to new federal specifications. The price quoted from American Response Vehicles includes discounts totaling \$8,916, bringing the \$92,271 truck down in price to \$83,355.

Both manufacturers are reputable, he said, and the decision came down to "dollars and cents" and the interior. The other bids that were rejected were a \$90,000 remount or \$120,000 demo from Salina

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